

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Australia's First National Children's Commissioner Appointed

Relationships Australia welcomes the appointment Ms Megan Mitchell as Australia's first National Children's Commissioner.

Prime Minister, Julia Gillard announced the appointment yesterday as part of the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020.

Relationships Australia's Chair of the National Board, Mr Mat Rowell is delighted that Australian children will now have a national voice, "Ms Mitchell's appointment is an important step in the right direction of protecting Australian children."

"The fact that there will be a clear focus on vulnerable or at-risk groups of children including children with a disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, homeless children or those children witnessing or subjected to violence will be key in protecting the basic human rights of our next generation and those to follow." Mr Rowell said.

"At Relationships Australia we believe that all children in Australia have the right to learn how to build and sustain positive relationships. To do this, they need to be supported and safe and their voices heard and respected so we hope this appointment will support our work and make a real difference."

Ms Mitchell is expected to commence her appointment in March.

Relationships Australia conducts programs around the country that support children and families as well as many other relationship support services.  
[www.relationships.org.au](http://www.relationships.org.au)

**Media contact: Erin Gordon**  
**02 6162 9309**